

JOINT INFORMATION CENTER COVID-19



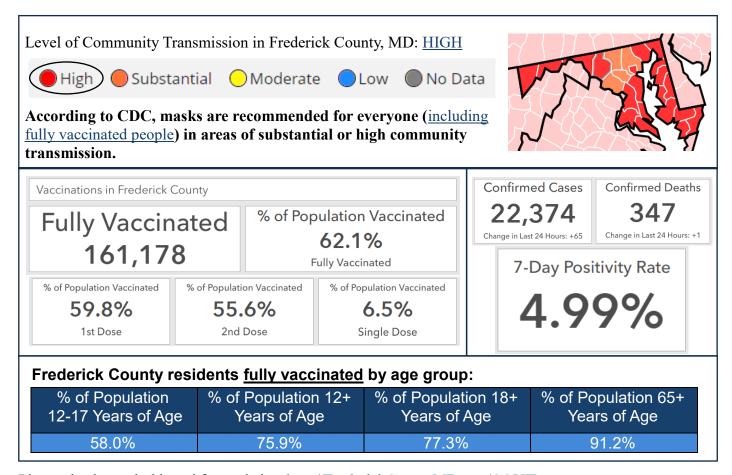
News Release

Media Contact: Rissah Watkins Frederick County Health Department <u>JIC@FrederickCountyMD.Gov</u> 301-600-7662 * TTY Use Maryland Relay

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Frederick County Agency Updates for September 16, 2021

Frederick, MD



Please check our dashboard for statistics: http://FrederickCountyMD.gov/COVIDstats.

-more-



Page 2/JIC

Update on Third Doses and Booster Doses

Additional (Third) Dose

Sometimes people who are moderately to severely immunocompromised do not build enough (or any) protection when they first get a vaccination. When this happens, getting an additional dose of the vaccine can sometimes help them build more protection against the disease. This appears to be the case for some immunocompromised people and COVID-19 vaccines. CDC recommends moderately to severely immunocompromised people consider receiving an additional (third) dose of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna) at least 28 days after the completion of the initial 2-dose mRNA COVID-19 vaccine series. Third doses are available for people who are immunocompromised at all Frederick County Health Department vaccination clinics, as well as any pharmacy or other vaccination clinics.

Booster Dose

A **booster dose** refers to another dose of a vaccine that is given to someone who built enough protection after vaccination, but then that protection decreased over time.

On September 8, Governor Hogan announced that he authorized congregate care facilities in Maryland to immediately begin offering "booster doses" to residents 65 years and older who are in their care. This includes residents living in nursing homes, assisted living centers, residential drug treatment centers and group homes for people with disabilities. Individuals living in Maryland's eligible congregate care facilities should contact their residential director for information about booster administration.

The FDA is currently reviewing data to help decide when a wider swath of fully vaccinated Americans should begin receiving COVID-19 booster shots, which is likely to be either six or eight months after completing their initial two dose series with one of the mRNA vaccines (i.e., Pfizer, Moderna). The FDA is meeting in an open session this Friday, September 17th, to discuss the efficacy and safety of administrating a third dose, or "booster" dose, of the licensed Pfizer vaccine ("Comirnaty") in individuals 16 years of age and older.

Booster doses may also be needed for people who received the Johnson & Johnson and Moderna vaccines. More data on both vaccines is expected to be received by the FDA in the next few weeks. We will share information on any plans once they are announced.

At this time, the Frederick County Health Department is NOT offering COVID-19 "booster doses" to anyone, including residents of these congregate care facilities.

We will share information about how to get a booster shot if the FDA issues authorization and the CDC makes available recommendations for who, when, and how booster doses should be given. If these two regulatory agencies do allow us to give booster doses of the Pfizer vaccine, we anticipate booster shots will be available through all of the pharmacies, healthcare providers, and county clinics currently administering COVID-19 vaccines.

-more-



Page 3/JIC

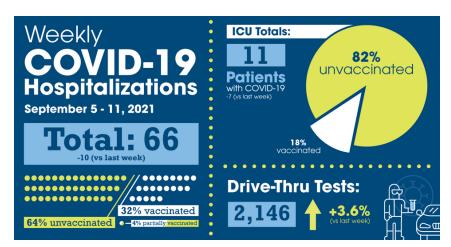
JIC Partners

<u>Frederick County Public Schools:</u> COVID-19 vaccination clinics are being offered at middle and high schools for children 12 years and older. Details are listed in this <u>Find Out First message</u> from September 14.

Frederick Health Hospital: Frederick Health is posting weekly updates of COVID-19 cases in the hospital and ICU by vaccination status, as well as statistics on their drive-thru testing.

Last week (September 5-11, 2021), Frederick Health Hospital had a total of 66 COVID-19 hospitalizations.

See their weekly update on their <u>Facebook page</u>.

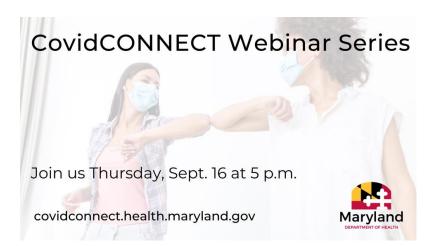


Maryland Trending Questions

Join the Maryland Department of Health and NAMI Maryland to learn about improving your well-being through self-care on Thursday, Sept. 16 at 5 p.m.

Learn how self-care activities can help you cope with stress and improve your mental, emotional, and physical health. Participants will learn proven strategies and how to develop a self-care plan. The webinar is free and open to the public. Learn more and register:

covidconnect.health.maryland.gov.



To combat **misinformation on social platforms**, the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) has launched a Twitter feed to combat COVID-19 misinformation and disinformation and ensure that Marylanders have accurate information about life-saving vaccines, the importance of testing, and other COVID-19-related facts. The feed, <u>@GoVAXMaryland</u>, will also livestream Ask An Expert Q&A sessions every other Thursday beginning September 23.

-more-



Page 4/JIC

Frederick Vaccination Update

All Marylanders 12 and older are eligible to get a COVID-19 vaccination. Please note that only Pfizer is authorized for people 12-17 years old. Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Frederick County Health Department has clinics in a variety of locations throughout the county. This list can be found at http://frederickcountymd.gov/covidvaccine. New links are added on Mondays.

- Schedule an appointment by going to http://frederickcountymd.gov/covidvaccine or call 301-600-600-7900 Monday – Friday, 8am-5pm, or call 301-600-7905 for Spanish.
- For other dates/times, check out <u>Frederick Health</u> Hospital and other locations.
- If you need an in-home vaccination, please call 301-600-7900 to schedule.

LYFT Ride Option: Those who need a ride to get vaccinated can visit www.uwfrederick.org/rideunited for more information or can call 301-600-7900 for English or 301-600-7905 for Spanish. The first \$25 of each one-way ride is completely free to the rider.

Childcare option: KinderCare, Learning Care Group, and YMCA are all offering free child care to help parents and caregivers get vaccinated. For more information, visit the provider's website.

Date	Time	Location
Thursday, Sept. 16	1:30- 2:30	Rescue Mission, 419 W. South St. Frederick, MD 21701
Thursday, Sept. 16	4-7pm	800 Oak Street, Frederick, MD 21703 (entrance off Himes Ave. directions).
Thursday, Sept. 16	5-7pm	Brunswick, Railroad Square, Brunswick, MD 21716
Friday, Sept. 17	10am- 1pm	800 Oak Street, Frederick, MD 21703 (entrance off Himes Ave. directions).
Friday, Sept. 17	11:30- 4pm	Frederick Community College Building H: room H202/H203 in the Student Center, Frederick MD, 21701
Friday, Sept. 17	5-7pm	Thurmont, 615 E. Main St., Thurmont, MD 21788
Saturday, Sept. 18	10am- 12pm	Asbury United Methodist Church 101 W. All Saints St. Frederick, MD 21701
Saturday, Sept. 18	10am- 1pm	800 Oak Street, Frederick, MD 21703 (entrance off Himes Ave. directions).
Saturday, Sept. 18	12-2pm	Discovery Community Center 8740 Stauffer Rd., Walkersville, MD 21793
Sunday, Sept. 19	10am- 1pm	St. Katharine Drexel Catholic Church 8428 Opossumtown Pike. Frederick, MD 21702
Monday, Sept. 20	1-4pm	Fredericktowne Mall 1317 W. Patrick St. Frederick, MD 21702
Tuesday, Sept. 21	4-6pm	Vigilant Hose Activities Building 17701 Creamery Rd. Emmitsburg, MD 21727
Wednesday, Sept. 22	4-6pm	Carver Apartments Community Center 207 Lee Alley, Frederick, MD 21701
Wednesday, Sept. 22	4-7pm	800 Oak Street, Frederick, MD 21703 (entrance off Himes Ave. directions).

For More Information:

Frederick County residents can call 866-411-6803 to reach our local 211 center with general questions about coronavirus or COVID19. Accurate COVID-19 information is critical to the community. For the most current and accurate information about this situation, please refer to the following:

- City of Frederick: https://cityoffrederickmd.gov/covid19
- Frederick County Government: www.frederickcountymd.gov/Coronavirus
- Frederick County Health Department: health.frederickcountymd.gov/coronavirus
- Maryland Department of Health (MDH): <u>coronavirus.maryland.gov</u>
- Centers for Disease Control (CDC): <u>coronavirus.gov</u>